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9-3-01 1655

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: G. Gundling, et al.

Group Art No.: 1655

Serial No.: 09/492,213

Examiner: B. Sisson

Filed: January 27, 2000

Title: METHOD OF PROCESSING A
SAMPLE CONTAINING AT LEAST ONE
BIOLOGICAL ELEMENT

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Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Case No.: 6416.US.P1



Date of Deposit:

Julie Freeman 01-23-01
Julie Freeman Date

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above
entitled METHOD OF PROCESSING A SAMPLE CONTAINING AT LEAST ONE
BIOLOGICAL ELEMENT are the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO 1449, in duplicate;
3. References as cited on PTO 1449 (1 Reference);
4. PCT Written Opinion; and
5. Return Receipt Postcard

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any
additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16, as well as
any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17
associated with this communication for which full payment had not
been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025.

Dated: January 23, 2001

Respectfully submitted,
G. Gundling, et al.

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Paul D. Yasger
Paul D. Yasger
Registration No. 37,477
Attorney for Applicants

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Julie Freeman 01-23-01
Julie Freeman Date

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a statement as specified by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart international PCT application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art". If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

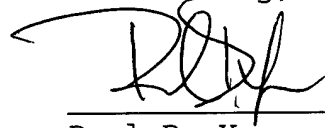
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 01-0025.

Dated: January 23, 2001

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